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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/867,680	05/31/2001	Martin John Millmore	19111.0056	7210

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SWIDLER BERLIN SHEREFF FRIEDMAN, LLP
3000 K STREET, NW
BOX IP
WASHINGTON, DC 20007

EXAMINER

VU, KIEU D

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2173

DATE MAILED: 06/28/2004

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/867,680

Applicant(s)

MILLMORE ET AL.

Examiner

Kieu D Vu

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 April 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 3-8 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 3-8 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1,3, and 5-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Crim (USP 5920866).

Regarding claim 1, Crim teaches a system for enabling entry and display data in a database (col 1, lines 7-10), the system comprising a processor 1216 for controlling the display of a form (Fig. 5F) having a number of data fields (304, 306, 308, corresponding to data items stored or to be stored on a database, and a store 1220 and 1222 for storing, for at least one data field, information enabling attributes 513 relating to that data field to be displayed upon user command while the form continues to be displayed (col 9, lines 33-42); wherein the at least one data field (fields in Fig. 3) corresponds to a data item (items in value lists) (see col. 6, lines 27-38) and the stored information defines one or more data items other than the data item corresponding to the at least one data field (format of the value list is not a data item to be selected in a data field; see col. 7, lines 43-51).

Regarding claim 5, Crim teaches a system for enabling entry and display data in a database (col 1, lines 7-10), the system comprising a processor 1216 for controlling the display of a form (Fig. 5E and 5F) having a number of data fields (304, 306, 308,

corresponding to data items stored or to be stored on a database, and a store 1220 and 1222 for storing, for at least one data field, information defining a computation to be performed (radio button 504 for defining format) wherein results of the computation are to be displayed upon user command while the form continued to be displayed (col 7, lines 40-51).

Regarding claim 6, Crim teaches the computation uses items from the database (format).

Regarding claims 3 and 7, Crim teaches the providing a user interface 500 to enable a user to define information which is stored in the store corresponding to the at least one data field (Fig. 5A-5C).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 4 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Crim and Johnson (USP 5721847).

Regarding claim 4, Crim does not teach that the user command is a right click of the mouse. However, such feature is known in the art as taught by Johnson. Johnson teaches a method for inserting a selected graphic control within a spreadsheet which comprising the opening a drop-down menu upon user's right-mouse click (col 7, lines 23-27). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teaching

of Crim and Johnson before him at the time the invention was made, to modify the interface system taught by Crim to include the opening a drop-down menu upon user's right-mouse click taught by Johnson with the motivation being to enable the user to easily and conveniently accessing data in the value list.

5. Applicant's arguments filed 04/07/04 are not persuasive.

In response to Applicant's argument "In Crim, the information defines only the selected data item, not data items other than the selected data item", it is noted that the information defines the format in which the value list will be displayed is not the selected data item (see col. 7, lines 41-51).

In response to Applicant's argument "Johnson does not disclose or suggest that the at least one data field", it is noted that this argument attacks reference individually since Johnson is cited to teach performing right-mouse click command since the limitation "at least one data field corresponds...." is fully taught by Crim as cited above.

In response to Applicant's argument that Crim does not disclose "computations that are performed", it is noted that "computation", as defined in Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary Tenth Edition", is "the use or operation of a computer". Therefore, all operations for generating a value list in Crim are reasonably considered "computation" since they are performed by a computer.

6. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not

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mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kieu D. Vu whose telephone number is (703-605-1232). The examiner can normally be reached on Mon - Thu from 7:00AM to 3:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Cabeca, can be reached on (703- 308-3116).

The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are as follows:

(703)-872-9306

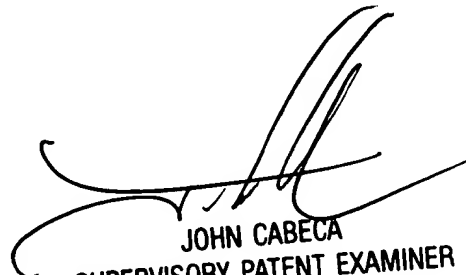
and / or:

(703)-746-5639 (use this FAX #, only after approval by Examiner, for "INFORMAL" or "DRAFT" communication. Examiners may request that a formal paper / amendment be faxed directly to them on occasions)

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703-305-3900).

Kieu D. Vu

06/24/04


JOHN CABECA
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100